

City of Boston Green Cleaning Policy

Draft For Comment & Distribution

Pursuant to Mayor Thomas M. Menino's Executive Order Relative to Greening City Building Maintenance and Operations and Executive Order Relative to Climate Action, the City of Boston Purchasing Division and the Property & Construction Management Department have established the City of Boston Green Cleaning Policy. This Green Cleaning Policy has been developed in consultation with relevant City departments to help ensure that City buildings are healthier, safer and cleaner environments for employees and constituents, and to advance the Mayor's overall agenda to make Boston a more environmentally sustainable City. Under this Green Cleaning Policy, the City and its agents will comply with the following:

- a) Purchase and provide only "green" or environmentally friendly cleaning products, including, but not limited to, glass cleaners, neutral cleaners and general purpose cleaners, provided that such products meet the necessary specifications of the proposed function and are cost effective, and further require that all cleaning service and related contractors working in municipal buildings adhere to the same requirement.
- b) Vendors of environmentally friendly products, and cleaning service contractors, must provide documentation that their products meet Green Seal Environmental Standard (GS37) for General Purpose, Bathroom, Glass, and Carpet cleaners used for Industrial and Institutional Purposes or any equivalent standards officially recognized by the City's Purchasing Agent in consultation with the Chief of Environmental and Energy Services and the Commissioner of the Boston Public Health Commission.
- c) The use of the current stock of cleaning supplies shall be phased out and replaced by the use of only Green Seal (GS 37) or other City-approved green products. Automatic mixing systems may be installed, where necessary, to ensure proper use (i.e. usage at appropriate strengths) of cleaning compounds.
- d) The practice of burnishing floor surfaces will be employed, where applicable, to reduce the use of potentially irritating cleaning and stripping compounds. Any necessary floor stripping and waxing will be performed during non-business hours.
- e) Use of disinfectants for cleaning shall be limited to food contact surfaces and the clean-up of biological wastes. All disinfectants must be premixed, registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and have a Hazardous Materials Identification System (HMIS) rating of 2 or less.
- f) City, vendor and contractor cleaning staff shall be trained in the safe and proper use of all cleaning products and equipment and relevant hazard communications to be able to appropriately and safely adhere to the Green Cleaning Policy.

This policy covers all municipal buildings maintained by the City of Boston and is applicable to City personnel as well as new contracts for cleaning products and services of the City. City staff, contractors and vendors shall review the policy and may request additional information and training as required. This policy will be reviewed and updated at least annually in consultation with the Green Operations Coordinating Committee.